Remedy for people under REGA Programmes

2309. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have increased the prices of foodgrains and reduced the quantity of foodgrains in rations for BPL and APL families;

(b) whether this has been given effect in case of REGA programmes and other programmes of rural development works where foodgrain is a component; and

(c) whether Government have proposed to prescribe remedy for the people coming under the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) The Central Issue Prices (CIPs) of foodgrains under the TPDS for BPL families have remained unchanged since July 2000, while for APL families the CIPs have remained unchanged since July 2002. The entitlement of APL and BPL families @ 35 kg of foodgrains per months has also not been changed, though the ratio between wheat and rice has been altered, keeping in view the loser level of wheat stocks.

(b) and (c) There has been no decision for reduction of foodgrains allocation for other food based schemes.

Procurement of foodgrains by NCDE

†2310. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Food Corporation of India has given the responsibility to National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (N.C.D.E.) to procure foodgrains for storage directly from farmers;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons for giving the said responsibility to NCDE;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.